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$38/month†
or **$499** per person + $331 taxes

Puerto Vallarta
Sheraton Buganvilias Resort & Convention Center ★★★★
7 nts • Feb 25, 2012 • All Incl.
Super Saver Room • from Vancouver
Air Transat

$55/month†
or **$899** per person + $331 taxes

Riviera Maya
Ocean Breeze Riviera Maya ★★★★
7 nts • Mar 27, 2012 • All Incl.
Deluxe Room • from Vancouver
Air Transat

$59/month†
or **$999** per person + $331 taxes

CARIBBEAN

Varadero
BelleVue Palma Real ★★★½
7 nts • Mar 3, 2012 • All Incl.
Hotel Room • from Vancouver
Air Transat

$44/month†
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Punta Cana
Barcelo Punta Cana Prestige Class ★★★★½
7 nts • Feb 3, 2012 • All Incl.
Prestige Class Deluxe Room • from Vancouver
Air Transat

$60/month†
or **$979** per person + $376 taxes

Riviera Maya
Grand Sirenis Mayan Beach Le Mirage ★★★★★
7 nts • Feb 21, 28, 2012 • All Incl.
Junior Suite • from Vancouver
Air Transat

$70/month†
or **$1,259** per person + $331 taxes

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Puerto Plata
Barcelo Puerto Plata Prestige Class ★★★★
7 nts • Feb 24, Mar 2, 2012 • All Incl.
Prestige Class Hotel Room • from Vancouver
Air Transat

$49/month†
or **$699** per person + $376 taxes

Puerto Plata
Bahia Principe San Juan Golden Club ★★★★
7 nts • Feb 3, 10, 2012 • All Incl.
Golden Club Hotel Room • from Vancouver
Air Transat

$52/month†
or **$799** per person + $376 taxes

Punta Cana
Sirenis Tropical Suites Casino & Spa Le Mirage ★★★★½
7 nts • Mar 2, 2012 • All Incl.
Superior Junior Suite • from Vancouver
Air Transat

$65/month†
or **$1,099** per person + $376 taxes

EUROPE

London
Montana Hotel Kensington ★★★½
8 nts • Feb 7, 2012
Cold Buffet Breakfast
Hotel Room • from Vancouver
Air Transat

$51/month†
or **$619** per person + $511 taxes

London
London & Historic England, Option 2, Ibis London Earl's Court ★★★
8 nts • Feb 7, 2012
Hot buffet breakfast • Hotel Room
from Vancouver • Air Transat

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London
Royal National ★★★
8 nts • Feb 14, 2012
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SOME OF THE BEST BEACHES IN THE CARIBBEAN
VISIT ARUBA {page 21}

COOKIES WITH A ROASTED-ALMOND CRUNCH
FOOD {page 22}

COMIC BOOK BOOM
IS THERE ANYTHING LEFT FOR FILM TO DRAW ON? {page 18}

VANCOUVER metro®
Wednesday, January 18, 2012
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News worth sharing

RCMP pilot killed in chopper crash

Mounties had just finished training exercise when helicopter went down near Cultus Lake

Mounties are grieving the loss of one of their own after an RCMP helicopter pilot crashed and died near Cultus Lake Tuesday.

Chief Supt. Wayne Rideout told media that the pilot was conducting a training exercise in Chilliwack with members of the Emergency Response Team in the afternoon.

After successfully completing the session, the pilot took off to return to the airport when the helicopter suddenly crashed shortly after 2 p.m.

Despite receiving medical attention from the nearby ERT members, who witnessed the incident, the pilot died.

"The pilot was part of our RCMP family and he will be missed," said Rideout. "He got up this morning and went to work and died on duty. We'll make sure his family have proper support."

The pilot, whose name has not been released pending family notification, had several years' experience with the RCMP and many more years' experience as a pilot before that.

The Transportation Safety Board and B.C. Coroners Service are investigating.

Few details were provided as to why the helicopter crashed.

"We are very early in this investigation," said Rideout. "There is little I can say."

TSB investigator Bill Yearwood said his team will begin by speaking to witnesses and examining the crash site and debris for any clues.

The helicopter, a Eurocopter AS350 B3 AStar, was one of six currently being used by the RCMP in B.C. MATT KIELTYKA

Gem.

▶ The world's largest cut emerald, named Teodora, will be auctioned off next weekend in Kelowna. The massive 57,000-carat gemstone is appraised at $1.15 million and has been attracting interest from prospective buyers locally and around the world. The emerald was mined in Brazil and cut in India. Story, page 4.

WESTERN STAR AUCTIONS/CONTRIBUTED

Enormous emerald up for grabs at Kelowna auction

Local

VPD pushes more riot charges

New wave of recommendations targets 20 alleged Stanley Cup rioters {page 3}

'I am going to make you pay'

Italian coast guard officer heard ordering captain back to doomed cruise ship in dramatic recording {page 8}

Canucks edged in shootout

Kings take game 3-2 {page 24}

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Puerto Vallarta	from $125 + taxes & fees $331
Cancun	from $149 + taxes & fees $335
Manzanillo	from $198 + taxes & fees $331

Airfares

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$198 from
+ taxes & fees $117

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Amsterdam	from $425 + taxes & fees $434
New York	from $479 + taxes & fees $173
Costa Rica	from $499 + taxes & fees $304
Hong Kong	from $629 + taxes & fees $310
Auckland	from $899 + taxes & fees $650

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Las Vegas Air + 3 Nights 4-Star + Cirque du Soleil from $379 + taxes & fees $132
INCLUDES accom on the Strip. **BONUS** tickets to select Cirque du Soleil or other Las Vegas show included.

USA

Palm Springs
Air + 3 Nights
$369 from
+ taxes & fees $132
INCLUDES central accom with kitchenette in Palm Desert near championship golf courses and shopping. **BONUS** daily buffet breakfast included. **ADD** car rental from $25 per day.

San Francisco Air + 4 Nights from $499 + taxes & fees $109
INCLUDES central accom in the South Market. **ADD** wine country tour from $72.

New York City Air + 3 Nights from $699 + taxes & fees $178
INCLUDES accom in Times Square. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $65 per night.

Honolulu Air + 7 Nights from $789 + taxes & fees $123
INCLUDES central accom near Waikiki Beach.

Long Stays

Mazatlán Air + 21 Nights from $999 + taxes & fees $188
INCLUDES marina view accom at a beachfront resort near shopping and restaurants.

Bali Air + 18 Nights 4-Star from $1399 + taxes & fees $421
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Disneyland

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+ taxes & fees $738
INCLUDES Bangkok accom near shopping and entertainment.

Prague Air + 7 Nights 4-Star from $729 + taxes & fees $509
INCLUDES central accom in the historic area of Zizkov. **BONUS** breakfast included. **ADD** castle tour from $56

Buenos Aires
Air + 7 Nights from $1399 + taxes & fees $568
INCLUDES central accom near attractions. **BONUS** breakfast included. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $8 per night.

Cook Islands Air + 13 Nights from $1499 + taxes & fees $389
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+ taxes & fees $331

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Los Cabos 7 Nights 4-Star from $599 + taxes & fees $340

Puerto Vallarta
7 Nights 4-Star from $625 + taxes & fees $340

Puerto Plata 7 Nights 4-Star from $667 + taxes & fees $376

Jamaica 7 Nights 4-Star from $699 + taxes & fees $337

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3 Nights + Lift Pass
$429 from
taxes & fees included
INCLUDES ski-in/ski-out accom in the centre of the Village and 2-day lift pass.

Big White
3 Nights + Lift Pass from $444 taxes & fees included
INCLUDES ski-in/ski-out accom close to the Bullet Express and 2-day lift pass.

San Diego
Air + 4 Nights 4-Star from $564 + taxes & fees $111
INCLUDES Harbour Island accom. **UPGRADE** to 5-star accom from $48 per night. **ADD** San Diego Zoo admission from $50.

Honolulu Air + 7 Nights from $844 + taxes & fees $108
INCLUDES accom across from Waikiki Beach. **BONUS** breakfast included. **UPGRADE** to 4-star accom from $25 per night. **ADD** 7-day convertible car rental with unlimited mileage from $18 per day.

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City backs residents in billboard battle

Vancouver city council has sided with residents over the electronic billboards at BC Place.

Since the renovated stadium reopened, downtown residents have complained about the excessive glare and light pollution being cast into their homes because of three large high-definition billboards.

The signs — which were put up by PavCo and are exempt from municipal bylaws since they rest on provincial land — caught the city by surprise, and attempts by Mayor Gregor Robertson to negotiate a resolution have made "no progress."

The city took the next step on Tuesday, unanimously voting in favour of a game plan councillors hope will pressure PavCo into complying with the city's sign bylaw.

Coun. Geoff Meggs introduced the motion, saying the city needs to stand up for residents, even questioning the appropriateness of advertising at one particular sight.

"I find it slightly offensive to see huge Budweiser ads behind the Terry Fox Memorial," he said. "(Residents) are asking for some reasonable accommodations for PavCo and they should get it."

City manager Penny Ballem said the city is looking into possible legal options.

MATT KIELTYKA

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS/METRO

▶ Crown spokesperson Neil Mackenzie talks to media Tuesday morning about the delay in sentencing for Ryan William Dickinson, the first person to plead guilty for participating in the June 15 Stanley Cup riot.

VPD pushes for more Stanley Cup riot charges

- To date, police have recommended 278 charges against 100 suspects
- More delays in sentencing hearing for first rioter to plead guilty

PHYLICIA TORREVILLAS
@METRONEWS.CA

Vancouver police have recommended another 63 charges against 20 suspected Stanley Cup rioters.

Insp. Les Yeo, of the Integrated Riot Investigation Team (IRIT), announced the third round of recommendations on Tuesday, bringing it to a total of 278 recommended charges against 100 suspected rioters.

"If you have thought we have given up, we have not," Yeo said. "We are here for the victims and we will be coming to get you."

So far, the Crown has only approved 78 charges against 30 people.

In this round of charges, a 15-year-old boy from Surrey allegedly helped flip over a parked car, stole an item from the trunk, pushed over a portable toilet and was later seen smashing a police car with a metal fence connector.

Of the 100 alleged rioters, 85 are men and 15 are women, 82 per cent are from outside of Vancouver, with 26 hailing from Surrey.

Meanwhile, Coquitlam resident Ryan William Dickinson, 20, the first Stanley Cup rioter to plead guilty, won't learn his punishment that was originally scheduled for Feb. 7.

Crown spokesperson Neil Mackenzie said Dickinson's sentencing hearing will be delayed because he changed his defence counsel.

A hearing has been set for Jan. 25 to fix the date for his sentencing.

"At that time, the Crown will also again be addressing the court with respect to our request that the broadcast application be heard at some date that is convenient, prior to the sentencing proceeding," Mackenzie said.

Dickinson pleaded guilty to participating in a riot and breach of recognizance.

1 news

Governments and time wonks are headed for a showdown over the fate of the 40-year-old "leap second." Scan the code for the story.

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Rick Perry infuriates Turkey's government with his latest debate controversy. Watch at metronews.ca/video

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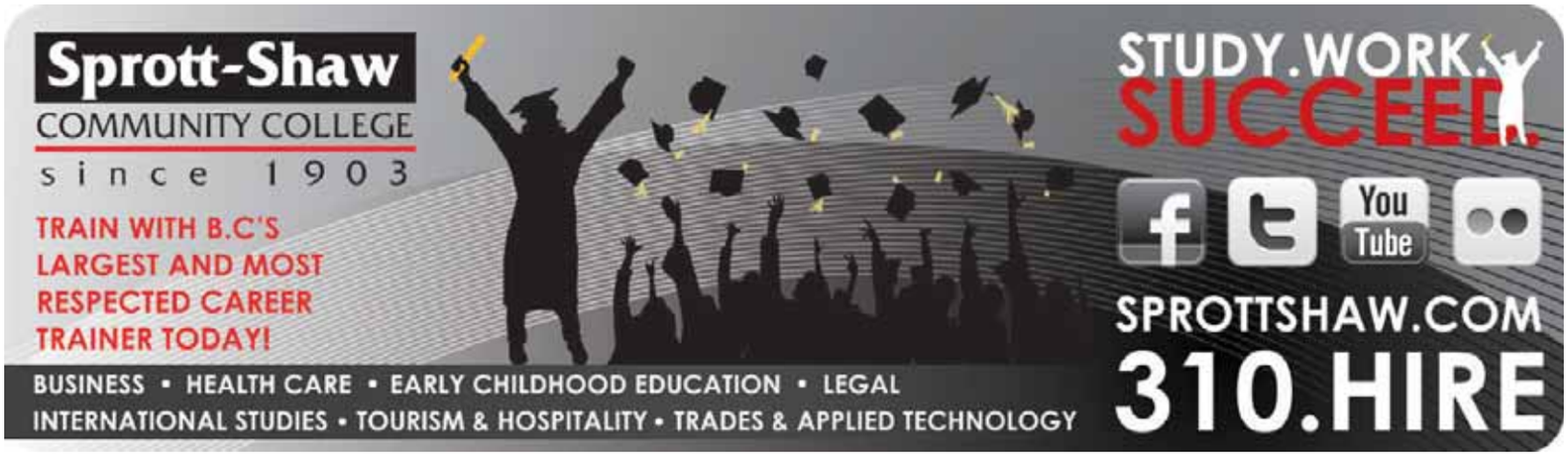
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JENNIFER KWOK/METRO

▶ MLA Jagrup Brar at Oppenheimer Park in Vancouver on Tuesday.

MLA struggles to survive

Jagrup Brar, in bid to live on welfare for 1 month, is already running low on cash ◆ Moves to Downtown Eastside to explore life in an SRO hostel

JENNIFER KWOK
@METRONEWS.CA

With just more than $20 left for the month, MLA Jagrup Brar moved from Surrey to the Downtown Eastside Tuesday and he is prepared to complete the welfare challenge despite difficulties, such as going broke.

"I don't have much (money) left. It's going way faster than I thought," Brar said Tuesday. "It's hard for me to believe that we have half a million people living in poverty in B.C."

Brar is living on $610 for the month and $425 went towards housing and groceries — he has $21.74 left.

"There are some hard decisions to make," expressed Brar. "Should I get food or deodorant? But hunger always comes first."

Brar has realized that having a hot breakfast at Tim Hortons or a Subway sandwich is a luxury. Commuting from place to place is also a struggle, so he walks in most circumstances.

Water-meter motion floated at council

Vancouver residents will soon get a crash course in water meters.

City council voted in favour of a motion Tuesday that will see staff study the water and cost savings provided by the meters, which are now a requirement in all new home construction.

The motion, put forward by first-term NPA Coun. George Affleck, was unanimously supported by a council that sees the report as a valuable public-education tool.

"It's out in the public, and the public is discussing it," Coun. Tim Stevenson said.

Affleck hopes the study will provide a business case to justify the new meter policy, showing cost and water savings compared to the extra $80 in annual fees taxpayers will have to fork over.

"It's not that I'm opposed to water meters," he said. "I just want proof that these will work and how."

Coun. Kerry Jang said the meters are crucial to managing water use.

"Clean water is a finite resource, and we have to treat it as gold," he said.

MATT KIELTYKA

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WESTERN STAR AUCTIONS/SUBMITTED

▶ The 57,000-carat Teodora emerald.

World's largest cut emerald for sale

The world's largest cut emerald will be auctioned next weekend in Kelowna.

The gemstone, which weighs almost 12 kilograms, has been appraised at $1.15 million, but could perhaps fetch as much as 10 times that amount, said Mike Odenbach, owner of Western Star Auctions in Kelowna and Penticton. METRO

News in brief

Bronze beaver stolen

A 30-kilogram bronze beaver sculpture was swiped from the back of a pickup truck in East Vancouver. The statue, almost a metre long, was stolen Jan. 11 from the back of the truck parked in the 100 block of East 61st Avenue. METRO

Dry Christmas tree causes fire

A three-storey apartment in the 1700 block of Francis Street caught fire Monday evening after a barbecue ignited a dry Christmas tree on a sundeck. SHIHO YODA

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News in brief

many suspects: RCMP lawyer

A lawyer for the RCMP is trying to show why it took so long to catch serial killer Robert Pickton.

Cheryl Tobias told the missing women inquiry in Vancouver that Pickton was one among a large number of possible suspects in the disappearance of sex workers in the late 1990's. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Teachers to scale back demands

After nearly 70 sessions at the bargaining table with little or no progress, B.C. teachers says they're going to scale back their demands for a new contract.

The Teachers Federation says its revised position will represent a "significant shift" that's aimed at pushing talks forward. The union has been demanding a major wage increase and other contract improvements while the government says it has no money for a salary boost. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Premiers form health working group

Canada's premiers and territorial leaders have formed a committee to seek ways to better manage Canada's limited health-care resources.

The premiers of Saskatchewan and PEI will lead the working group, which will focus on innovative ways of stretching current budgets to cover future needs. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Republic of Doyle stars visit Vancouver Film School

Canadian stars Allan Hawco and Lynda Boyd admit acting school wasn't for them They encourage VFS students to contribute to Canada's cultural identity

KENDRA WONG
VANCOUVER@METRONEWS.CA

KENDRA WONG/FOR METRO

▶ Actors Lynda Boyd and Allan Hawco at the Vancouver Film School on Tuesday.

Canadian-born actors Allan Hawco and Lynda Boyd from CBC's popular television drama Republic of Doyle took the stage to share their acting experiences with future actors and directors at the Vancouver Film School on Tuesday.

According to Hawco and Boyd, the success of actors is dependent not on what acting school they attend but on what they contribute to Canada's cultural identity.

"I didn't like (acting school)" admitted Vancouver-born Lynda Boyd who plays Rose Miller in Doyle. "In theatre school, you seem to have to cut open your chest and rip your heart out and your guts, and hopefully (the teachers) can put you back together again."

Hawco, who attended the National Theatre School of Montreal, agreed with Boyd.

"I had a group of fantastic teachers.... But I had to put myself back together like (Lynda)," he said. "I wanted to be an actor ... but I also wanted an opportunity to show Canadians a piece of their culture, a piece of their country (through the Republic of Doyle)."

"In our industry we're all students for the rest of our careers."
ALLAN HAWCO

Despite the experiences at acting school, the duo said they will continue to learn, even without the lectures and homework.

For more local news, visit metronews.ca/vancouver.

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11 a.m. to 5 p.m.
10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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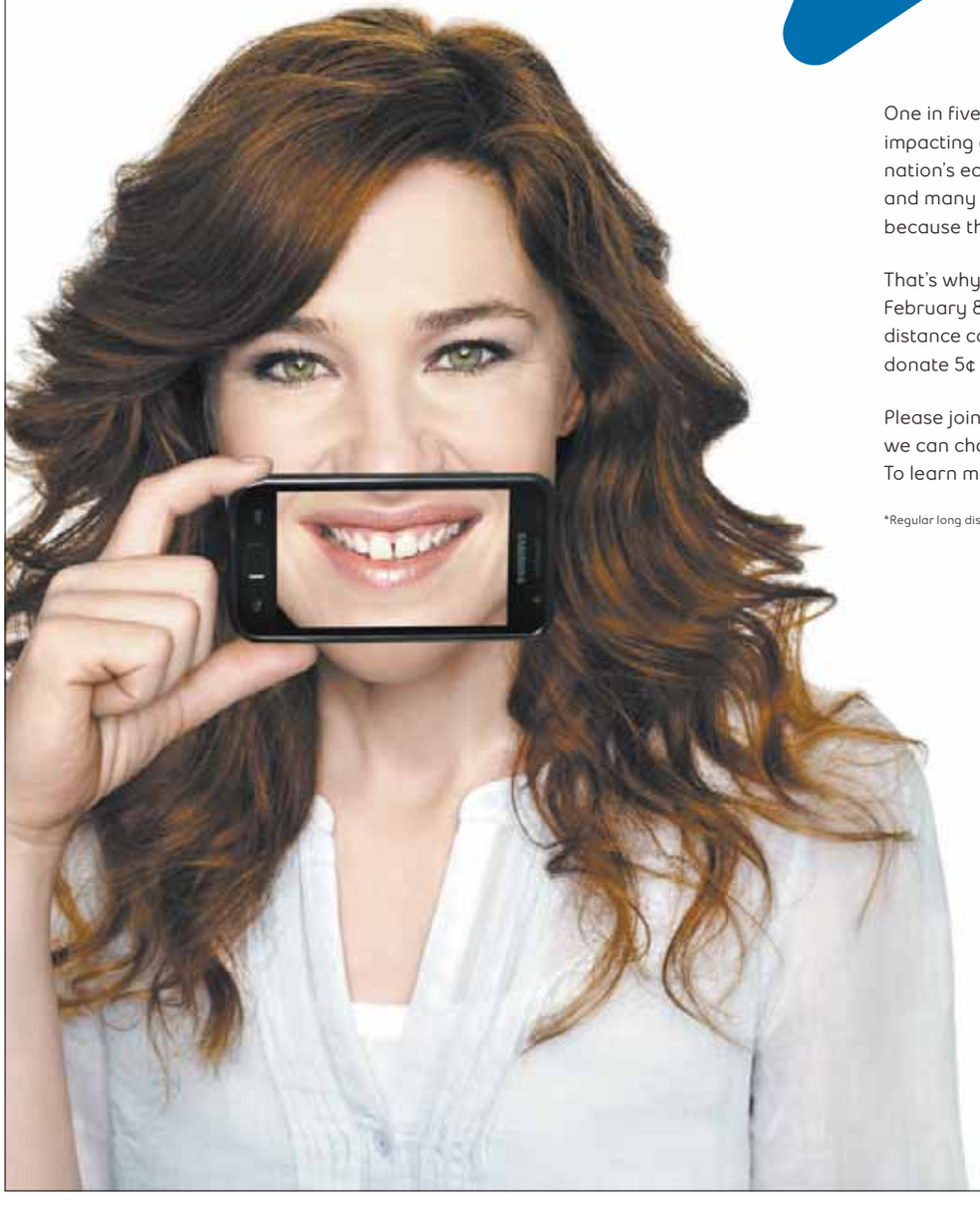
On February 8, let's talk.



One in five Canadians suffers from mental illness, impacting countless lives and taking a heavy toll on our nation's economy. But mental illness carries a stigma, and many who suffer won't get the help they need because they're too afraid to talk about it.

That's why I'm proud to support Bell Let's Talk Day on February 8. For every text message sent and every long distance call made by Bell customers that day,* Bell will donate 5¢ to Canadian mental health programs.

Please join me in the national conversation. Together, we can change attitudes and make a real difference. To learn more, visit bell.ca/letstalk.

*Regular long distance and text message charges apply.

Clara Hughes
Olympic champion

Bell Let's Talk

‘Go on board!’ captain of doomed ship told

Death toll from the Costa Concordia shipwreck rose sharply on Tuesday, to 11

GREGORIO BORGIA/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Italian naval divers approach the cruise ship Costa Concordia Tuesday after it ran aground on the tiny Tuscan island of Giglio, Italy, on Friday evening.

“You go on board! Is that clear? Do you hear me?” the coast guard officer shouted as the captain of the grounded Costa Concordia sat safe in a life raft and frantic passengers struggled to escape after the ship rammed into a reef off the Tuscan coast.

“It is an order. Don’t make any more excuses. You have declared ‘Abandon ship.’ Now I am in charge.”

The dramatic recording made public Tuesday shows Capt. Francesco Schettino resisted orders to return to his ship to direct the evacuation, saying it was too dark and the ship was tipping perilously.

The Costa Concordia had more than 4,200 passengers and crew on board when it slammed into the reef Friday off the tiny island of Giglio after Schettino made an unauthorized manoeuvre from the ship’s programmed course — apparently to show off the luxury liner to the island’s residents.

Schettino has insisted that he stayed aboard until the ship was evacuated. However, the recording of his conversation with Italian Coast Guard Capt. Gregorio De Falco makes clear he fled before all passengers were off — and then defied De Falco’s repeated orders to go back.

“Listen Schettino,” De Falco can be heard shouting in the audio tape. “There are people trapped on board ... You go on board and then you will tell me how many people there are. Is that clear?”

The exchange also indicates that Schettino did not know anyone had died, with De Falco telling him at one point: “There are already bodies now, Schettino.”

“How many bodies?” Schettino asks in a nervous tone.

“You are the one who has to tell me how many there are!” De Falco barks in response.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Tape recording

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ **Conversation.** At one point, in a recording of a conversation between Italian Coast Guard Capt. Gregorio De Falco and Francesco Schettino, pictured, De Falco vowed: “I’m going to make sure you get in trouble ... I am going to make you pay for this. Go on board, (expletive)!”

▶ **Arrest.** Schettino was finally heard agreeing to reboard on the tape. But the coast guard has said he never went back, and had police arrest him on land.

Scan the code or go to metronews.ca to hear the full recording.

Conservatives stay in the shadows as spy drama unfolds

RYAN TAPLIN/METRO HALIFAX

▶ Jeffrey Paul Delisle is escorted from Halifax provincial court to a sheriff’s van on Tuesday morning.

The Harper government hunkered down Tuesday in an attempt to weather an unfolding spy drama involving a naval officer who worked at one of the most sensitive and secure military intelligence centres in the country.

Prime Minister Stephen Harper, Defence Minister Peter MacKay, the military and the RCMP turned aside questions on the case of Sub.-Lt. Jeffrey Paul Delisle, who’s charged with communicating information to a foreign entity.

Defence experts said, given where the suspect worked, the potential damage to national security was immense.

MacKay said he would not confirm or deny reports the foreign power involved could be Russia, but a defence expert said that country is the most likely suspect, given the few details available.

“I am not going to play Clue,” MacKay said during a media availability to trumpet $337 million for a new satellite system intended to make military and government communications more secure.

“Our allies have full confidence in Canada.”

DEFENCE MINISTER PETER MACKAY WHEN ASKED ABOUT CHARGES LAID AGAINST A NAVAL INTELLIGENCE OFFICER IN HALIFAX

The case against Delisle was adjourned until next week by a Halifax judge, leaving the mystery to deepen as a neighbour in Bedford, N.S., described him as “someone who kept to himself” since moving from Ontario.

His rented house was turned upside down by RCMP and military police investigators last week.

The Security of Information Act, the law being used to prosecute Delisle, remains untested in court — never having been used in a case of alleged espionage since its passage in 2001.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Man charged in attempted kidnapping on reserve

A man has been charged in the attempted abduction of a 14-year-old girl on a First Nation reserve in the south central B.C. community of Anahim Lake.

Fifty-five-year-old Walter Earl Grinder is accused of kidnapping with the intent to confine.

Police say the incident began when a man in a pickup truck with two other men pulled alongside the girl as she walked in the Ulkatcho Reserve last Thursday night.

The victim says she was listening to her iPod when the truck stopped and the men inside asked if she would drink with them before the driver grabbed her wrist.

Police say the girl broke free and ran to a nearby store where someone noted down part of the truck’s licence plate, resulting in the arrest.

The two other men in the truck were questioned and released.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Winter sports causing injuries

Thousands of Canadians end up in hospital each year after breaking bones on the ski slope or snowboard run, sustaining a concussion from a hit on the hockey rink or suffering multiple injuries in snowmobile crashes, says the Canadian Institute for Health Information.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

5,600 The number of Canadians who were hospitalized with serious injuries related to winter sports.

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Don't click on Wikipedia

Popular website was set to go black today to protest U.S. curbs

Some Canadians have pledged to join Wikipedia and other big websites in going black today.

The blackout is a protest against proposed anti-piracy legislation in the U.S. that could have far-reaching effects for Internet users .

The legislation could allow website addresses to be blocked when complaints are filed about copyright infringement.

Search engines could be compelled to remove links to sites accused of copyright violations.

Web payment processors and advertisers could be forced to stop doing business with alleged offenders.

"We believe in a free and open Internet."
SUE GARDNER, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE WIKIMEDIA FOUNDATION

Tucows, a Toronto-based company that manages more than 11 million domain names and provides other Internet services, planned to temporarily take down its downloading site, which hosts more than 40,000 programs.

Social media service Identi.ca was also among Canadian sites joining the likes of Boing Boing, Reddit and Wordpress in the protest.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A COMPUTER IS HIS 'BIBLE.' MEET ...

FILE-SHARING'S HIGH PRIEST

JOHAN KELLMAN LARSSON
@METRO.LU
METRO WORLD NEWS IN STOCKHOLM

The pirates of file-sharing are on a mission.

Last week, the Swedish Missionary Church of Kopimism won official recognition as a religion — and the creed of copying and spreading information is expanding around the world.

Followers have sprung up in Russia, Romania, France, the United States and Denmark. A congregation in New Zealand is also seeking legal recognition.

The Kopimists worked all of last year to be recognized as a religion in Sweden. Last week, officialdom recognized their status as a church.

PATRIK LUNDIN/FOR METRO

▶ Isak Gerson, founder and spiritual leader of the Church of Kopimism, spoke with Metro about his religion.

Their 'creed'

Here are the Kopimists' pillars of faith:

- Copying information is ethically correct.
- Disseminating information is ethically correct.
- Remixing is a holier form of copying than the perfect, digital copying.
- Intranets are holy.

"The response has been great, even outside Europe. I have been contacted by new Kopimists in India as well as Japan," philosophy student Isak Gerson, 19 — founder, head of mission and supreme spiritual leader of the church — told Metro.

There are now 3,000 followers in more than 10 countries, it's claimed.

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CANADIAN HISTORY

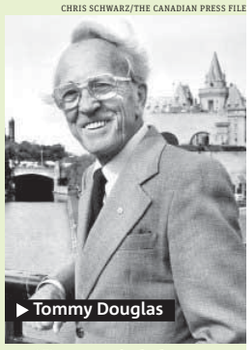
Tommy Douglas' medals up for auction

Medals from socialist icon and former Saskatchewan premier Tommy Douglas are on the auction block, but his daughter hopes the collection stays together.

"I just hope that whoever buys it won't split it up and it would be wonderful if they would donate it or give it to a museum that already has a lot of his things," actor Shirley Douglas said Tuesday in a phone interview with The Canadian Press.

If the Canadian Museum of Civilization had the items, it could loan them to other museums across the country, she suggested. Then the public would also be able to see the medals.

CHRIS SCHWARZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE



▶ Tommy Douglas

"I'm worried about them not being acquired by one person who would like to give them to a museum," Douglas said.

The collection, including an engraved coronation medal from 1937, is being auctioned off at the end of January by Jeffrey Hoare Auctions, based in London, Ont.

The company's website says the lot also includes Second World War and Victory medals from Tommy Douglas's father, Thomas Douglas Sr.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Honour important to Shafia, brother testifies in murder case

Accused's half-brother final witness in lengthy trial

Honour is very important to a man accused of killing half of his family, allegedly in a so-called honour killing, but Mohammad Shafia is no murderer, his half-brother said Tuesday.

Dr. Mohammad Anwar Yaqubi, in one of several outbursts in which he vehemently asserted his sibling is innocent, suggested it's the police and prosecutors who should be in prison instead of Shafia and his co-accused wife and son.

Wiretaps that the Crown says show Shafia's lingering anger over his daughters' dating habits, in which he calls them "whores," actually exonerate Shafia because he never explicitly says he committed murder, Yaqubi said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ This picture provided by the Frontenac County Court shows Rona Amir Mohammad, left, and Sahar Shafia, found dead in June 2011.

"If you listen to them properly and you analyze them properly you'll find out that dear (Shafia) shouldn't be here," Yaqubi said in response to a question about how many hours he spent listening to the recordings.

Shafia, his wife Tooba Yahya, 42, and their son Hamed, 21, are on trial in Kingston, Ont., charged with four counts each of first-degree murder. They've pleaded not guilty in the deaths of Shafia and Yahya's daughters Zainab, 19, Sahar, 17, and Geeti, 13, as well as Rona Amir Mohammad, 52, Shafia's first wife in a polygamous marriage. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Crown contends

- The Crown alleges the four victims were killed to protect family honour.
- Honour was a big deal for Shafia, Yaqubi agreed under cross-examination.
- The police wiretaps that captured his enraged outbursts show that Shafia was angry, but also grieving, Yaqubi said.
- But the Crown suggested Yaqubi doesn't know his half-brother very well at present, since he has only had sporadic communication, consisting of a handful of telephone calls on major holidays, since 1994.

January

18

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Aboriginal parole hearing for Haitian-born killer 'disrespectful:' victim's dad

A father says the man who murdered his teenage daughter should be denied an aboriginal parole hearing because it makes a "mockery" of Canada's First Nations people.

Michael Manning's 15-year-old daughter, Tara, was raped, smothered and stabbed dozens of times in the family's suburban Montreal home nearly 18 years ago.

The Parole Board of Canada has granted the girl's killer an elder-assisted hearing, which is usually reserved for aboriginal offenders and is designed to be sensitive to their traditional cultures.

The agency does allow some non-aboriginal inmates to use the process.

But Manning argues the Haitian-born man, who was convicted in 1997 of first-degree murder, should not be allowed such a hearing because, to his knowledge, he doesn't have a First Nations background.

"Aboriginals fought for a long time to try and get special rights and privileges ... It's disrespectful and it's a mockery to our First Nations, Inuit and Metis people," Manning said in an interview from his Montreal-area home on Tuesday.

Manning's daughter's killer cannot be named because a court ruled he was a minor at the time of the slaying.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CIDA to investigate Ethiopian aid

Canada's aid agency says it will look into how Ethiopia spends assistance funds after publication of a report that accuses the African country of an abusive and systematic practice of forcing rural villagers off their land.

The response came after a report released Tuesday by Human Rights Watch blasted the country for its "villagization" program that it says has forcibly relocated 70,000 indigenous people, and aims to move 1.5 million by next year.

The forced expulsions have cut villagers off from food sources and basic health services while forcing them to endure abuse from the Ethiopian army, the report alleges.

Researcher Felix Horne says the situation violates Canada's own policy, which says all aid spending must meet international human-rights standards.

Ethiopia is the third-largest recipient of foreign aid from Canada, at about $170 million a year.

Horne said he had off-the-record discussions with officials at the Canadian International Development Agency about his findings last year, but got little meaningful response.

That changed Tuesday when a spokesman for International Co-operation Minister Bev Oda replied to a request for comment with an emailed statement: "We will look into these allegations further, to ensure there is no misuse of Canadian taxpayers' resources."

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Study finds headphones can be deadly

Researchers looked at 2004-2011 accidents of people wearing headphones
55% of accidents involved trains Majority of victims were male under age 30

ISTOCK

▶ U.S. researchers suggest the use of headphones with hand-held devices may pose a safety risk to pedestrians, especially around moving vehicles.

A new U.S. study looking at injuries and deaths of pedestrians who were wearing headphones finds that trains were involved in more than half of the cases identified.

The study, published in the journal Injury Prevention on Tuesday, found 116 reports of death or injury of pedestrians wearing headphones, of which 81 were fatal.

During the study period, the number of cases tripled.

The researchers suggest that the use of headphones with hand-held devices may pose a safety risk to pedestrians, especially in environments with moving vehicles.

The researchers acknowledged a number of limitations to their research. For instance, it relied on media reporting, "which likely over-publishes tragic events but vastly under-publishes non-fatal cases."

And factors other than the use of headphones, such as suicidal intentions, substance abuse or mental illness, may have played a role in some of the pedestrian injuries and fatalities.

They suggested more study is needed.

"The use of cellphones and MP3 players is increasing. The risks posed in use of these devices by drivers are well documented, but little is known about the association between headphone use and pedestrian injury," wrote the researchers, based at the University of Maryland.

"The danger in using headphones as a pedestrian may be explained by two phenomena: Auditory masking of outside stimuli and distraction "

THE CANADIAN PRESS

MARK LENNIHAN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

▶ Attendees at the National Retail Federation listen to a discussion about the Google Wallet Tuesday.

Goodbye cash, hello virtual wallet

Google aims to allow users to pay instantly, virtually and securely

No cash or credit? No problem. Pay instantly with a tap of your phone using the Google Wallet.

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You can also buy from stores across the Internet by signing in to a Google wallet account.

Google Wallet is accepted by thousands of online merchants and payment information is securely encrypted and stored, the company's website says.

METRO

Crown: Nortel 'scheme' like a game of Sudoku

Crown lawyers at the fraud trial of three former Nortel Networks executives say the men created a culture of dishonesty at the fallen telecom equipment maker, encouraging staff members to cook the books to meet bonus-related targets.

Lead prosecutor Robert Hubbard told court Tuesday that under the direction of then-CEO Frank Dunn, the use of financial reserves to bulk up flagging balance sheets was widespread.

"In terms of this cookie-jar approach to accounting, it had a long history at Nortel, it wasn't just the accused who were involved in it," Hubbard said.

Hubbard likened the alleged scheme overseen by Dunn to a game of Sudoku, in which he knew what would trigger bonuses tied to a return to profitability and manipulated numbers.

Hubbard said the former leaders of what was once Canada's biggest company were orchestrating an "earnings management scheme" through which they held back millions of dollars of "out of balance" money so it could be reported later at their choosing.

27 The Crown has a list of 27 witnesses, including former employees who prosecutors warn may have acted as accomplices.

Dunn, who was Nortel's chief financial officer before he became its chief executive officer, former CFO Douglas Beatty and former controller Michael Gollogly are accused of defrauding Nortel of $5 million. All have pleaded not guilty.

Defence opening arguments are expected Wednesday. The trial could last longer than six months.

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Ottawa may help cool housing market

Ottawa is prepared to once again intervene to discourage home buying if necessary, Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said Tuesday after the central bank warned low interest rates will likely cause Canadians to pile on more debt.

The finance minister's statement came after the Bank of Canada announced the policy interest rate will stay at the super-low one per cent, even though such attractive credit conditions is likely to result in Canadians borrowing more.

Economists say the bank's signals suggest interest rates may stay at current historic low levels for at least another year, and possible two.

"Very favourable financing conditions are expected to buttress consumer spending and housing activity," the central bank's policy council said.

"Household expenditures are expected to remain high relative to GDP (gross domestic product) and the ratio of household debt to income is projected to rise further."

Flaherty and bank governor Mark Carney have been warning for some time they are concerned low interest rates. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Budget seeks to protect us: Flaherty

Finance Minister Jim Flaherty said Tuesday his upcoming budget will seek to address longer-term problems facing Canada, while protecting the country from external shocks in the current economic environment.

News reports suggest the government is looking to limit Old Age Security benefits to qualified people at least 67 years of age, and to tackle pension plans for federal employees and elected members of Parliament.

Flaherty said the upcoming budget will stick to its target of eliminating the $32 billion federal deficit in four or five years.

SEAN KILPATRICK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

▶ Jim Flaherty

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Recovery bad news for clunkers

That clunker in America's driveway has reached a record old age, but there are signs that people may be growing confident enough in the economy to buy new cars soon.

The average age of a car or truck in the U.S. hit a record 10.8 years last year as job security and other economic worries kept people from making big-ticket purchases such as a new car. **THE ASSOCIATED PRESS**

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THE WORST IS BEHIND US

JUST SAYIN' ...

PAUL SULLIVAN
METRO

We should get a medal.

On it should be: "I survived Blue Monday."

If you're reading this, it's confirmed: you survived what is held to be the most depressing day of the year.

There's even a formula for those who don't automatically buy the idea that the third Monday in January is the most depressing day of the year. Developed by some helpful guy in Wales, it factors in weather, post-holiday bills, the grim fact that holidays are over, enthusiasm for your new year's resolution is officially on the wane, and there's that nagging feeling that if you don't do something, it's only going to get worse.

I'd add that for most of the country, the next holiday doesn't come until April 6, and there's a long stretch of another-day-older-and-deeper-in-debt until we get there.

So at least you should get a freaking medal.

I spent the most depressing day of the year in a room full of rocket scientists (don't ask) and by the end of it, I came to the conclusion that I need more RAM. But at least I got to the end of it, and by the time I turned out the light and pulled the covers over my head, I was feeling quite smug: starting tomorrow, there's nowhere to go but up.

"Even the not-psychologist admits his calculations are meaningless. But that hasn't stopped media from picking up the story, thanks to the time-tested tradition of never letting the facts get in the way of a good story."

And the same guy who calculated the most depressing day of the year has also determined the happiest day of the year, which this year for some reason is Monday, June 18.

We're happy on June 18, allegedly, because it's warm enough to go outside and play; therefore, we're closer to nature in all its early-summertime glory. We can hang out with friends without being frostbitten and even if we're miserable creatures we can remember summers long ago when we weren't. Finally, we're almost on holiday, which is better than being fresh out of holidays.

It's all very scientific, except that it isn't. Some killjoy pointed out that the so-called expert who devised the formula is not, as often billed, a psychologist at the University of Cardiff. Even the not-psychologist admits his calculations are meaningless. But that hasn't stopped media from picking up the story, thanks to the time-tested tradition of never letting the facts get in the way of a good story.

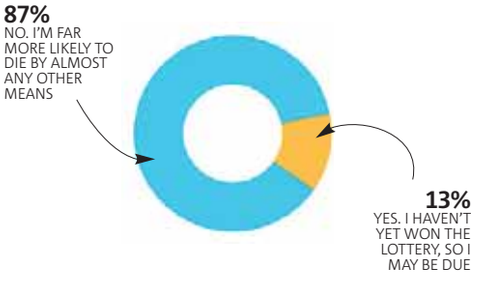
Surely at this time of the year, we need all the encouragement we can get. And the news that we've hit rock bottom and it can only get better is welcome news indeed.

It would be even better if it came with a medal we could wear around our necks … at least until the Easter Bunny finally saves the day.

Read more of Paul Sullivan's columns at metronews.ca/justsaying

Register at metropolitanpanel.ca and take the quick poll

Are you afraid of yet another falling piece of space junk?



Local tweets

- **@GregMoore-dotca:** Glad to see a picture of the Coast Meridian Overpass in #Coquitlam City Hall, part of the CEBC display.
- **@bcRCMP:** Landslide at Othello Tunnels in Hope. Othello road blocked. Hwy 5 not impacted. Severe conditions. Telus and hydro lines down. No injuries.
- **@DonDavies:** Trout Lake Community Centre just re-opened. Visit the website to find out more about their new facilities and programs. vancouver.ca/parks/cc/trout ...
- **@bifnaked:** Anything helps: jackets, gloves, blankets, flashlights, etc. Please help #Vancouver stay warm! @ugm
- **@dawn_chubai:** Snow is good and FUN if you're not driving in it...we'll show you why at Destination Ski in North Vancouver !
- **@jlchung:** Vancouver Chinatown Spring Festival at Sun Yat-Sen Plaza - Jan. 28 - 29th! ow.ly/8wYDQ spread the word!
- **@theNINTENDOpros:** Ubisoft Vancouver closes its doors: Ubisoft Vancouver has been shut down. A spokesperson confirmed the... bit.ly/yXBVwR #nintendo

Daily Zoom

GETTY IMAGES

Horses of the apocalypse?

A gallop on fire to honour a saint

A man rides a horse through a bonfire in the small village of San Bartolomé de Pinares in Spain. In honour of St. Anthony (San Anton), the patron saint of animals, hundreds of horses are ridden through bonfires on the night before the official day of paying homage to animals. MWN

Then a feast of sausages after

These steeds leap through bonfires to drum beats and Spanish bagpipes until midnight, when the riding ends. By morning, when the fires have died down to embers, locals grill a feast of chorizo and blood sausage. Those taking part in the festival believe the flames and smoke "purify" the horses. MWN

"I myself remember from childhood this is how the village elders and I prayed to St. Anthony."

SAN BARTOLOMÉ MAYOR MARIA JESUS MARTIN TOLD LOCAL MEDIA. FOR CENTURIES AN EPIDEMIC WIPED OUT REGIONAL WORKHORSES. RESIDENTS THEN PRAYED TO ST. ANTHONY FOR PROTECTION BY BURNING AN EFFIGY AT THE STAKE AS A SYMBOL OF PURIFICATION.

200

200 horses, as well as dogs, cats, pigs, birds and even ferrets, took part in San Bartolomé's annual blessing of the animals.

metro

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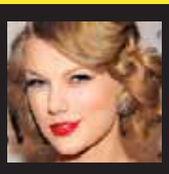
2 scene

Is the comic book movie well starting to run dry?

Nicolas Cage rides back into theatres as Ghost Rider in mid-February With tier-two comic book heroes getting hit up for a sequel, it begs the question: After a decade-long spandex-and-leather blockbuster boom, are there any comic book film adaptations left in the tank?

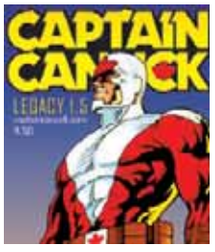
In brief



Should Jake Gyllenhaal be worried? Taylor Swift graces the cover of Vogue's February issue and tells the magazine her next album will be about an "absolute crash-and-burn heartbreak" she experienced. The 22-year-old singer doesn't name names, but she did date Gyllenhaal in 2010.
THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Marvel says creativity, compelling stories will drive comics again in 2012.

Green Arrow
This B-league bow-master has been hitting hard targets since 1941, but outside of fan-boy circles he might as well be a contestant on American Archer. Not only does Green Arrow borrow from Robin Hood's wardrobe but he also shares the Englishman's penchant for the redistribution of wealth.
Movie Buzz: Years back, Kevin Smith's name was bandied about in connection with an Arrow movie. More recently NY Times bestselling author Brad Meltzer dropped hints he'd be down to pen the script.
Odds of ever making the big screen: Slim as a solo deal but sky-high in a Justice League of America (JLA) live-action flick.



Captain Canuck
The Cap is a well-mannered Mountie who acquires super-strength after a run-in with some aliens while camping. He then dons red-and-white spandex with a maple leaf emblazoned on his forehead while tangling with baddies. In its original incarnation the series was set in a future world where Canada had become, according to the first issue, "the most important country in the world."
Movie Buzz: Mind's Eye Entertainment owns the film rights and plans on developing the project with the cooperation of series creator Richard Comely.
Odds of ever making the big screen: Pretty good, eh.

Aquaman
The often-parodied super-swimmer has been breathing underwater and having telepathic conversations with sea life since 1941. Ventriloquist and comedian Jeff Dunham points out that Aquaman has the same powers as SpongeBob SquarePants.
Movie Buzz: If Shaq could suit up and play Steel, there's no reason why Michael Phelps couldn't dye his hair blonde and start chatting up some beluga whales.
Odds of ever making the big screen: While HBO's Entourage featured the making of an Aquaman action movie with James Cameron, the underwater hero doesn't get that caliber of Hollywood love in real life.

Flash
In the comic book world the mantle of the fastest man alive has been held by Jay Garrick, Barry Allan, Wally West and Bart Allan. A mainstay in the T-shirt wardrobe of Big Bang Theory's Dr. Sheldon Cooper, Flash has remained fashion forward in geek circles for more than 70 years.
Movie Buzz: Fan-boys are chirping a mile a minute and "Rock the Lightning" would be a great poster tagline.
Odds of ever making the big screen: In 1990-91 CBS ran a single season of The Flash starring John Wesley Ship. But if there's ever a JLA movie, Warner Bros. will greenlight a Flash solo joint in a red-hot minute.

CONTRIBUTED

Black Panther
Beyond Wesley Snipes vamping it up in Blade movies, there haven't been too many mainstream African-American superhero movies. Created by Stan Lee and Jack Kirby in 1966, Black Panther — the protector of the fictitious African nation of Wakanda — is the Jackie Robinson of superheroes laying the groundwork for all that followed including Luke Cage, Falcon, Storm and Spawn.
Movie Buzz: Some small murmurs a the moment.
Odds of ever making the big screen: They'd need to get creative with the title, otherwise many would assume the movie was about the radical organization of the same name. MIKE DOJC

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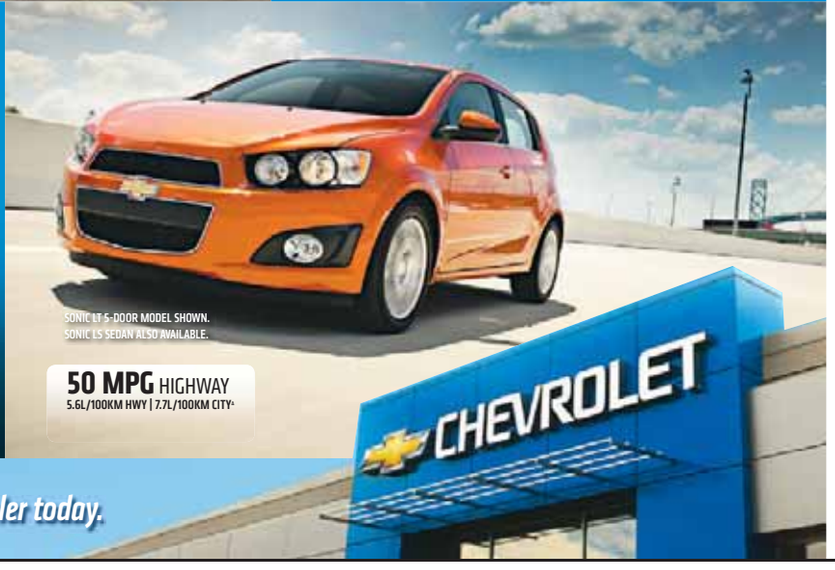

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Paula Deen: Now is 'God's time' to make some cash

- The queen of unhealthy cooking reveals she has Type 2 diabetes
- Interesting that she just got a sweet deal to promote a diabetes drug...

ALL PHOTOS GETTY IMAGES

▶ Paula Deen

THE WORD

DOROTHY ROBINSON
SCENE@METRONEWS.CA

Thanks to a super scoop by The Daily, it's been known that celebrity chef of all things fattening — deep-fried butter balls, Velveeta fudge, and butter, mayo, and whiz spread, to name just a few of her recipes — Paula Deen had developed Type 2 diabetes and would soon go on a publicity blitz about the diagnosis.

Well, that whirlwind media tour happened yesterday when she went on The Today Show as well as grant an interview to USA Today.

Although she's apparently been diabetic for over two years (while continuing to shill her high-fat, high-calorie cooking), she decided to go public now because, as she puts it, it wasn't "God's time" when she first learned she was sick.

"I felt like I had nothing to offer anybody other than the announcement. I wasn't armed with enough knowledge. I knew when it was time, it would be in God's time," she told USA Today.

Interestingly enough, for Deen, "God's time" means "time to finagle a lucrative contract with a makers of a diabetes drug." As, oh yes, Deen used that lull to sign on as a sponsor for the diabetes medicine Victoza. A new website featuring Deen as their spokesperson also launched Monday.

Deen doesn't want to say how much money she's making off the deal.

She tells USA Today, "Talking about money is garish. It's tacky. But, of course, I've been compensated for my time. That's the way our world works."

Is it just me, or is it also garish and tacky to continue to shill your junk food to people even though you know it can make them sick — like it did you?

▶ Lindsay Lohan

Should Lindsay play Liz Taylor?

Lindsay Lohan's plans to relaunch her acting career may not be as set in stone as she thought.

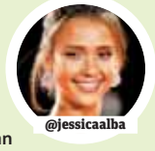
The troubled actress is up to play Elizabeth Taylor in a Lifetime TV movie, but the film's producer tells E! News that Lohan isn't the only starlet being considered.

"I've been talking to Lindsay Lohan directly, and with her reps, and have been in conversation with other actresses, including Megan Fox," Larry Thompson says.

"It's a very serious selection. It's like casting for Hollywood royalty."

METRO

Celebrity tweets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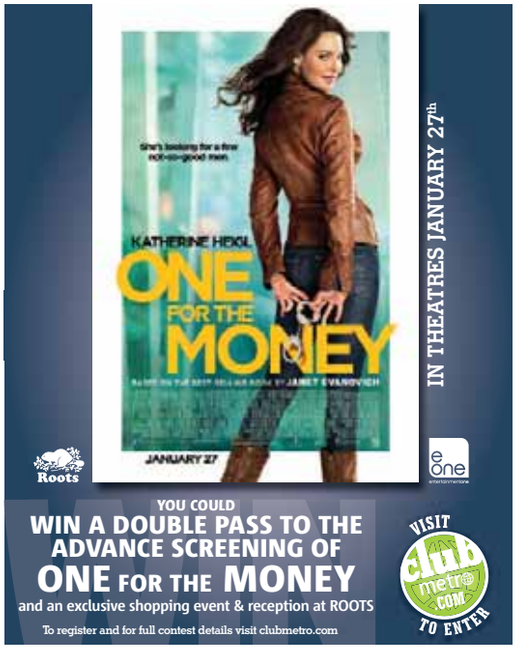
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Aruba: One happy island

Aruba has some of the best beaches in the Caribbean and it's outside the hurricane zone But there's more to this island than the beach

VAWN HIMMELSBACH
LIFE@METRONEWS.CA

Aruba, a tiny island only 25 kilometres from the Venezuelan coastline, is known for its turquoise water and white sandy beaches. But, unlike many of its Caribbean neighbours, it hasn't been taken over by all-inclusive resorts and all of its beaches are public.

It's safe, easy to get around, and you'll find hundreds of restaurants, bars and nightclubs in Oranjestad, the island's picturesque capital, so you won't be stuck eating at the same buffet table every day.

What to do

If you can manage to tear yourself away from your poolside lounge chair and mojito, there's no shortage of easily accessible activities on the island — scuba diving, snorkeling, windsurfing, kitesurfing, sea kayaking, water skiing and sailing, to name just a few. There's also hiking, quad trekking and sunset horseback riding in the island's national park. As for beaches, Eagle Beach and Palm Beach are among the best beaches in the Caribbean, perfect for swimming and sunbathing. For windsurfing/kitesurfing, head to Boca Grandi, Malmok, Grapefield or Fisherman's Huts.

COURTESY ARUBA TOURISM AUTHORITY

All of Aruba's beaches are public.

Diving and snorkeling

Aruba is the wreck diving capital of the Caribbean with more than 20 wreck sites off of the coast just waiting to be explored — including the German freighter Antilla, from the Second World War. Whether you're a novice or advanced diver, you can spot a range of aquatic life. Several outfitters such as De Palm Tours and Red Sail Sports offer catamaran trips to the island's best spots.

Events

January-March, Carnival: This is Aruba's biggest party of the year, complete with street parties and parades, flamboyant costumes and fantastic music.

May, Aruba Soul Beach Music Festival: This star-studded, two-night concert series has previously featured India Arie, Alicia Keys and Jennifer Hudson. For more, visit soulbeach.net.

Where to eat

Thankfully, Aruba offers a lot more than the all-inclusive buffet. In fact, there are several hundred options, from high-end dining to local seafood shacks.

Papiamento Restaurant: Join the Ellis family in their 175-year-old manor house for upscale dining in a tropical garden setting. Try the local specialty Keshi Yena, made with minced tenderloin and chicken stewed with prunes, raisins and cashews, topped with Dutch cheese.

Cuba's Cooking: You'll find genuine Cuban cuisine in one of the oldest houses of historic downtown Oranjestad, including ropa vieja, picadillo and palomilla steak — and one of the best bolero singing pairs outside of Havana.

Zeerovers Fish Bar: Head to this typical Aruban fisherman's bar in Savaneta for freshly caught fish and shrimps — this is where the locals go for the catch of the day. Forks are optional.

VAWN HIMMELSBACH/METRO NEWS

Zeerover's Fish Bar.

3 life

Travel in brief

Wild Women Expeditions is celebrating its 22nd season with adventures in every region of Canada. What started in 1991 as an all-women canoe tripping company has expanded across Canada is now offering kayak, flatwater and whitewater canoe, hiking, cycling, surfing and yoga adventures. Expeditions start in June. Visit wildwomenexp.com/calendar.

METRO

Dare to Wear Love museum exhibit features Canadian fashions inspired by Africa

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Almonds show their sweet side

These crunchy cookies have a great texture thanks to the use of delicious and flavourful almond butter and fragrant roasted almonds

NEWS CANADA

Using almond butter helps deepen the almond flavour in these cookies as well as offers up a great texture.

Roasted almonds add crunch to the cookies, which makes them perfect to enjoy with an afternoon coffee.

Preparation:

1. Preheat oven to 350°F (180°C) and line a baking sheet with parchment paper.
2. In a large bowl, using an electric mixer, beat together almond butter, butter, brown sugar, egg and almond extract until light and fluffy.
3. In a separate bowl, combine flour, baking soda and salt. Add flour into creamed mixture slowly until well blended. Stir in diced almonds. Dough will be very crumbly; cover with plastic wrap and refrigerate for 30 minutes or until firm.
4. Form into 1-inch (2.5 cm) balls and place on baking sheet; flatten with a fork creating cross hatch pattern. Bake on centre rack in oven for 12 to 15 minutes or until lightly browned. Cool on baking sheet for a few minutes before transferring cookies to a wire rack. When cool, store in airtight container.

ALMOND BOARD OF CALIFORNIA/ NEWS CANADA/ ADAPTED FOR METRO NEWS BY EMILY RICHARDS(PROFESSIONAL HOME ECONOMIST, COOKBOOK AUTHOR AND A TV CELEBRITY CHEF. FOR MORE, VISIT EMILYRICHARDSCOOKS.CA)

Ingredients:

- 1 cup (500 mL) creamy almond butter
- 1/2 cup (250 mL) butter, softened
- 1 cup (500 mL) packed brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) pure almond extract
- 1 1/2 cups (375 mL) all purpose flour
- 1/2 tsp (2 mL) baking soda
- 1/4 tsp (1 mL) salt
- 1/2 cup (250 mL) diced roasted almonds

▶ The recipe makes about 50 cookies.

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Drink of the week

Chocolate Doughnut Hot Chocolate

- 500 ml (2 cups) whole milk
- 1 glazed or sugar coated chocolate doughnut
- 125 ml (1/2 cup) semisweet chocolate chips
- Pinch salt

In a blender, combine milk and doughnut. Puree until very smooth.

Transfer mix to saucepan. Whisking constantly, heat over medium until it thickens, 3 mins. Add chocolate chips and salt, whisking until chocolate has melted and cocoa is smooth.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS/ J.M. HIRSC

How to make giving back sound even better

You volunteered — good for you! But what exactly did you do? Make that experience count for something on your resumé

GREG OVERHOLT
TALENTEGG.CA

ISTOCK

▶ There will certainly be a spotlight on you if you know how to convey the importance of your volunteer work properly.

In the Volunteer Experience section of your resumé, do your bullet points look like any of these?

- Promoted and raised awareness for events
- Attended and assisted in events such as campus fair
- Assured information around campus is up-to-date
- Worked closely and communicated often with the President and VP Sales and Marketing
- Kept finances up-to-date

These are a sample of some bullet points taken from applicant resumés that I've reviewed recently.

Read any one of them and ask yourself: "What did he or she actually do in this position?"

What information should you include?

As the employer, I want to see specific examples in regards to what you did and how you did it, as well as the results that were generated by these actions, rather than somewhat vague or generic descriptions of your role.

To only write that you "promoted and raised awareness for events" is not enough — the key element is explaining how you did this. Did you put up flyers? Posters? A neat guerilla campaign using social media? And what was the result of the events? How many people came out? A bullet point without this type of information provides unsubstantial information and therefore doesn't give an employer many positive things to attribute to your work.

"Measuring your outcomes, getting evaluations, quantifying success and setting goals are all aspects that you must consider as you begin to volunteer."
GREG OVERHOLT

The resumé sentence

In resumé language, sentences should be formed answering "What you (actually) did" and great ones include "The result of my action was…" To communicate your volunteer experiences better, you should re-word the first aforementioned bullet point as such:

"Promoted our speaker series by administering daily booths and creating campus-wide marketing materials, which generated an additional 50 attendees."

Ahhh… now I know what you did, and it seems as though your marketing efforts were successful (and I am impressed that you measured your impact afterward!).

How do you measure your awesomeness?

Measuring your outcomes, getting evaluations, quantifying success and setting goals are all aspects that you must consider as you begin to volunteer (or work) so that you can understand and communicate your goals and accomplishments.

If you are a marketing person, for example, conduct a post-event survey by asking participants where or how they heard about the event.

This will give you the necessary feedback and evidence to prove that you were successful (50 students came because of you) or give you valuable insight into what you should or shouldn't do next time (important learnings or key takeaways from your experiences that can be applied to this job are also great for interviews, even if the result wasn't great).

GREG OVERHOLT IS THE FOUNDER AND EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE NATIONAL STUDENT-LED CHARITABLE SOCIAL VENTURE SOS: STUDENTS OFFERING SUPPORT (STUDENTSOFFERINGSUPPORT.CA). TALENTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND CAREER RESOURCE FOR STUDENTS AND NEW GRADUATES

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4 sports

Kings storm Canucks' castle

Los Angeles prevails in shootout after another slow start from Vancouver at Rogers Arena

KINGS	CANUCKS
3	2

RICH LAM/GETTY IMAGES

Vancouver's Dan Hamhuis accidentally high sticks teammate Roberto Luongo while checking Los Angeles' Dustin Brown Tuesday night.

Justin Williams and Mike Richards scored in the shootout Tuesday as the Los Angeles Kings beat Vancouver 3-2 and handed the Canucks a second straight home loss.

Williams, who also scored in regulation, beat Canucks goalie Roberto Luongo on his stick side while Richards, the fourth shooter, fired over his glove.

Alex Burrows scored for the Canucks, who got regulation goals from Daniel Sedin and David Booth.

Dustin Penner opened the scoring for the Kings.

Los Angeles (23-15-9) consolidated its hold on a Western Conference playoff spot while the Canucks (28-15-4) lost for the third time in five games.

The Kings, who haven't defeated Vancouver in regulation in their last seven games at Rogers Arena, improved to 8-1-5 under coach Darryl Sutter, who replaced the fired Terry Murray.

Vancouver, listless in a 4-2 Sunday loss to the lowly Anaheim Ducks, missed a chance to grab a share of the conference lead with the Detroit Red Wings.

Booth, who missed 18 games with a knee injury, tied the game five minutes into the third period with his first goal since Dec. 4.

Booth, who dropped down to the third line, took Jannik Hansen's centring pass and snapped it behind Kings goalie Jonathan Quick.

Another Booth shot hit Quick on the mask, knocking it off.

Luongo preserved the tie by smothering Mike Richards' close-in attempt and blocking Williams' tip attempt with four minutes left in regulation.

Both goalies were sharp as the Kings outshot Vancouver 41-34.

The Canucks were once again facing a California club playing its third game in four nights. They were looking for a better start than they had Sunday against Anaheim, but didn't get it.

They were being outshot 11-3 when Penner tipped Drew Doughty's point blast behind Luongo for the game's first goal.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sports in brief

1 The Indianapolis Colts have fired coach Jim Caldwell.

2 Tigers star Victor Martinez could miss the entire 2012 season after injuring his left knee during off-season conditioning.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Jays sign Villanueva, Johnson, Francisco

The Toronto Blue Jays avoided arbitration with right-hander Carlos Villanueva, second baseman Kelly Johnson and outfielder Ben Francisco on Tuesday, signing all three to non-guaranteed one-year deals.

Johnson is scheduled to make $6.375 million US in 2012 while Villanueva agreed to a deal just under $2.3 million and Francisco is slated to get $1.537 million.

Toronto has two arbitration-eligible players remaining — pitchers Casey Janssen and Brandon Morrow. Second-year general manager Alex Anthopoulos said unless either or both players agree to a multi-year contract, the Jays and the players' representatives will indeed meet before an arbitrator, likely sometime next month.

"The one thing we both agree on is the players should get a raise and the players should make more than they made last year," he said during a conference call.

"I think we're all on the same page that we like the players and want to give them a raise.

"What we can't see eye-to-eye on is how much of a raise to give them so the third party has to get involved to tell us what the right amount is. We don't have a problem with that."

Then again, the Jays were scheduled to go to arbitration last year with slugger Jose Bautista and pitcher Jason Frasor, but settled on multi-year deals with both players prior to meeting with an arbitrator.

Bautista agreed to a five-year, $64-million US deal with a club option for a sixth year at $14 million while Frasor reached a one-year, $3.5-million agreement with a club option for 2012 worth $3.75 million.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Giant request

Giants ace Tim Lincecum has asked for $21.5 million US in salary arbitration and been offered $17 million.

- The two-time NL Cy Young Award winner's request Tuesday neared the record amount sought in arbitration. Houston pitcher Roger Clemens asked for $22 million in 2005.
- San Francisco's offer was the highest in arbitration history, topping the $14.25 million the New York Yankees proposed for shortstop Derek Jeter in 2001.

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Australian Open in pictures

PHOTOS
1. CLIVE BRUNSKILL/GETTY IMAGES
2. MARK KOLBE/GETTY IMAGES
3. RYAN PIERSE/GETTY IMAGES

1 Milos Raonic crushed Italian Filippo Volandri, 6-4, 6-0, 6-2, on Tuesday and joined fellow Canadians Aleksandra Wozniak and Stephanie Dubois in the second round.

2 Li Na advanced to the third round with a 6-2, 6-2 win over Olivia Rogowska on Wednesday, her best run at a major since her breakthrough win at the French Open.

3 Defending champion Kim Clijsters cruised into the third round on Wednesday and then showed just how much support she has at Rod Laver Arena by getting the crowd to sing Happy Birthday to her younger sister.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

'I hate bugs more than you can imagine'

Insects, not injured ankle or late start, irk Serena

RYAN PIERSE/GETTY IMAGES

If anything, it was the insects buzzing around Rod Laver Arena that bugged Serena Williams the most.

The injured left ankle held up fine in her opening match Tuesday at the Australian Open, and even the near-midnight start time was OK. But the bugs?

"I hate bugs more than you can imagine," Williams said after reaching the second round by beating Tamira Paszek 6-3, 6-2. "Like, they kept jumping on me. Yuck!"

The match started at 11:32 p.m., and Williams hit a service winner 1 hour, 19 minutes later to finish it off. In between points, though, she picked up and moved or shooed away bugs that landed on court, and two that landed on her back. A big one gave her a fright, making her hop as she tried to stifle a screech.

"I'm going to request not to play at night anymore because I hate bugs, except for the final. I heard it's at night," Williams said. "I'll try to get used to them."

Two years after she won her last Australian Open title, Williams extended her winning streak to 15 matches at Melbourne Park in the season's first major tournament. She won back-to-back titles in 2009 and 2010, but missed the chance to defend her title last year amid a prolonged injury layoff.

The late start was because Williams had to wait until the conclusion of a 4-hour men's night match won by Leyton Hewitt. And it was her first match since badly spraining her ankle two weeks ago at the Brisbane International, an injury that jeopardized her participation in Melbourne. Monday was the first time she was able to practice pain free, but she still had her lower left leg and ankles heavily taped.

"I don't let anything bother me," she said. "It's definitely different to have the ladies play so late, you know, so we'll see."

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Extra help, when needed

Unlike full-hybrid systems that can operate in electric mode only or in tandem with a gasoline engine counterpart, the eAssist's electric motor/generator, which takes the place of a traditional belt-driven alternator, kicks in when extra thrust is needed.

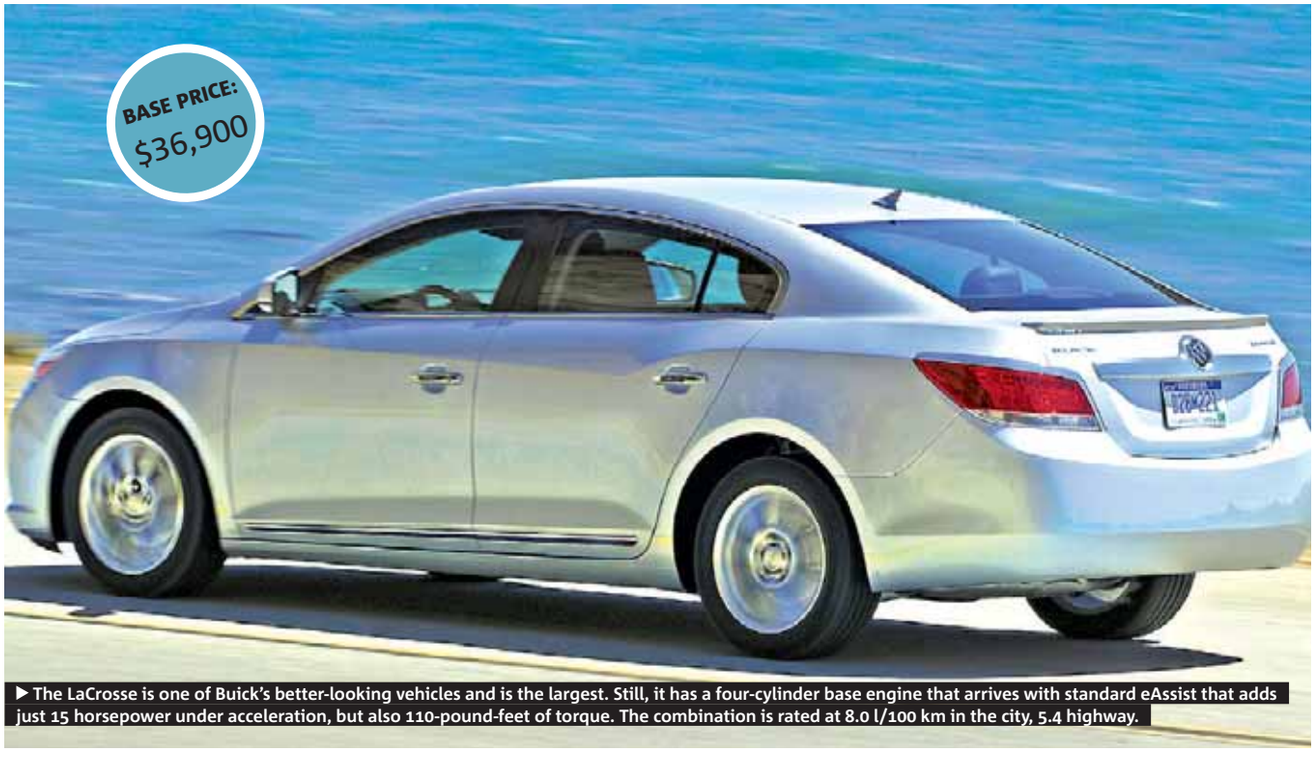
The only time the duo isn't in operation occurs when coasting downhill, while stopped at a light or in the throes of full-on traffic gridlock. Then, the gasoline engine shuts down to conserve fuel, leaving the electric side to run all the necessary accessories, such as the air conditioning.

When the light turns green or the way is clear, the engine fires up once the brake pedal is released.

Power outputs

The eAssist electric motor-generator, now standard on all LaCrosse models, replaces the traditional alternator and draws on a lithium-ion battery pack to boost the 182-horsepower (and 172 pound-feet of torque) 2.4-litre gasoline engine by an additional 15 horsepower and 110 pound-feet or torque.

It also generates an additional 15 kilowatts of power by recovering the energy produced from braking and converting it into electrical energy to help recharge the batteries.



▶ The LaCrosse is one of Buick's better-looking vehicles and is the largest. Still, it has a four-cylinder base engine that arrives with standard eAssist that adds just 15 horsepower under acceleration, but also 110-pound-feet of torque. The combination is rated at 8.0 l/100 km in the city, 5.4 highway.

Bigger doesn't always mean better for Buick

MALCOLM GUNN
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WHEELBASE MEDIA

For traditional Buick lovers, their world must seem a truly bewildering place.

Buyers of the brand's big floaty sedans used to shop for Park Avenues, LeSabres and, until recently, Lucernes.

But that large barge has now sailed, taking with it the last vestiges of what once made Buick the final word in upper-mid-range opulence.

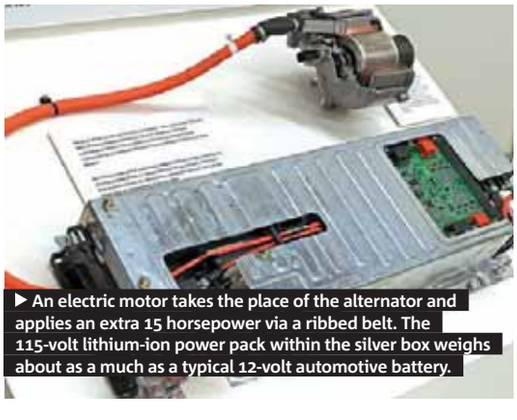
General Motors has retooled its formerly moribund Buick brand and infused it with some particularly tasty small-scale products that offer style and fuel economy, while placing trailer-towing capacity in the forget-about-it bucket.

Other than the popular Enclave wagon, the largest vehicle in the fleet is now the LaCrosse, a model that received a complete makeover for the 2010 model year and is currently one of the classiest looking four-doors around.

But following two years in service, there are major changes in store for this model, as well as its Regal relation, that promise to make both models significantly more fuel efficient.

The upgrade is called eAssist, a name that describes what GM calls its "light electrification" technology, but in other circles is best described as a mild hybrid.

▶ A dash-mounted display advises the driver when the battery is charging and when the electric motor is in play.



▶ An electric motor takes the place of the alternator and applies an extra 15 horsepower via a ribbed belt. The 115-volt lithium-ion power pack within the silver box weighs about as a much as a typical 12-volt automotive battery.

Buick LaCrosse

What you should know about the 2012 Buick LaCrosse:

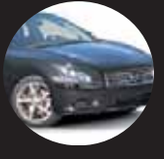
- **Types:** Four-door, front-/all-wheel-drive sedan.
- **Engine (hp):** 2.4-litre DOHC I4 (182) with electric motor (15); 3.6-litre DOHC V-6 (303).
- **Transmission:** Six-speed automatic.
- **Market position:** The LaCrosse represents a compromise in hybrid vehicles as it doesn't operate exclusively on battery power. However its impressive fuel economy combines with plenty of luxury features at a reasonable price.
- **Mileage:** L/100 km (city/hwy) 8.0/5.4 (2.4).

5 drive

By comparison

Lincoln MKZ
Base price: $40,000
Stylish Ford Fusion-based model offers all-wheel-drive and hybrid versions.

Nissan Maxima
Base price: $39,500
Great looks and sporty demeanor complement its impressive V-6 power.



Toyota Avalon
Base price: $42,700
Camry-based sedan is geared to older drivers looking for a softer ride.

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YOUNG BUYERS FREAK OUT AUTOMAKERS

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How do you sell cars to people who are only mildly interested in cars? I thought maybe with mild cars, mild advertising and mild salespeople. But apparently that's incorrect.

Truth be told, automakers are just learning how to appeal to the next big group of auto buyers — young people who love their digital world a lot more than the automotive world.

At this year's auto show in Detroit, Chevrolet introduced a couple of concepts aimed squarely at this "not really crazy about cars" generation.

But before it did, John McFarland, leader of GM's Global Youth Strategy, shared some research it unearthed about this new group of buyers.

For starters, it's a big group — in the U.S. alone, young consumers are 80 million strong, and represent 40 per cent of the potential car buying market.

The key word there is "potential."

Many are just not getting their licenses when they turn 16. For them, the signal that they've made it to adulthood is not getting behind the wheel, but getting behind a smartphone.

Also, their digital world provides social experiences that were previously only possible by leaving the driveway.

But all is not lost. While many are disinterested in purchasing a new car right away, many feel the other way. After talking to over 9,000 young customers, GM concluded that nearly 40 per cent ARE interested in cars; in the U.S. that translates to 32 million potential young customers.

All well and good, but even these car-interested types have very unique views on car brands. Basically most car brands aren't turning their crank.

This is in contrast to their passion and emotional connection to other tech brands, like Apple, Google, and Facebook, as well as to brands such as Nike and Target.

According to McFarland, auto brands fall in the middle of their brand-love rankings, "somewhere around disinterest and complacency."

And to punctuate the complacency, he offered this anecdote: He asked a young woman in California about her car. She was very complimentary about it. When he probed further, and asked if she actually loved the car, she said, "Well, the best way I can describe it, is it's kinda like an ugly boyfriend, you know? It's been good to me, but the second something better comes along ... it's out the door."

So car brands, like Chevrolet, who target this audience, have their work cut out for them. Lots of back and forth is needed, said McFarland.

Young buyers are particularly interested in a vehicle's connectivity.

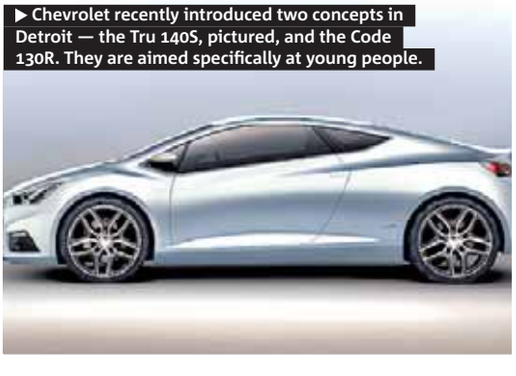
According the Chevrolet, they're also interested in being involved in the design process. That's why the two concepts revealed in Detroit — the Tru 140S and Code 130R — have no interiors. GM has ideas for the interiors, and how to approach their connectivity and infotainment systems, but before it locks into a certain approach, it's inviting a whole bunch of young people to offer some input, through kiosks at auto shows, and bringing the vehicles to where young people hang out.

"Crowd sourcing," so to speak.

Oh yeah, almost forgot about the cars. Both are four-door sport coupes, because young folk like sports cars, but want to bring their friends along too. Both are also fuel efficient, with 1.4-litre turbo engines. The front-drive Tru 140S channels the "Italian exotic car" vibe, while the rear-drive Code 130R channels a "muscle car" vibe.

I like the red one, even though I'm not sure I'm allowed to ... not in the demographic apparently.

CONTRIBUTED



▶ Chevrolet recently introduced two concepts in Detroit — the Tru 140S, pictured, and the Code 130R. They are aimed specifically at young people.

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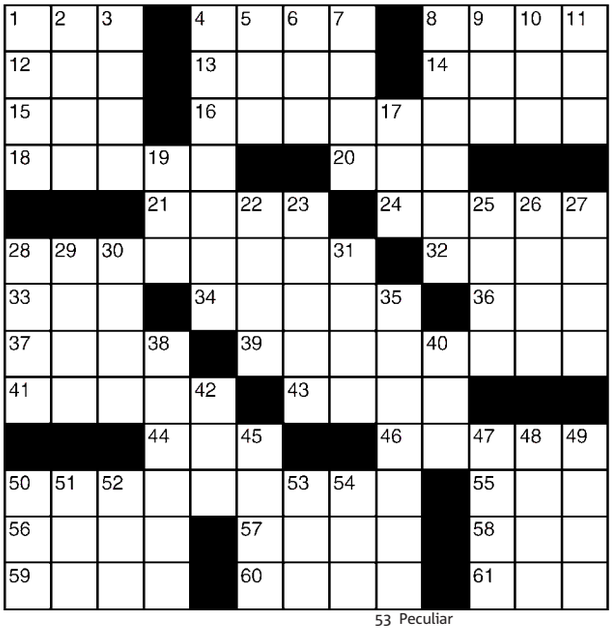
Crossword



Across

1 $ dispenser
4 Two-way
8 Use a really old telephone
12 Payable
13 Therefore
14 A Great Lake
15 "CSI" evidence
16 Karate level
18 Popular condiment
20 That girl
21 — Stanley Gardner
24 Lightheaded
28 Winter road hazard
32 Pop
33 Help
34 Urban palls
36 Chum
37 Huff and puff
39 Shiner
41 Bewildered
43 Concept
44 Clear the tables
46 Hosiery material
50 Result of a star's collapse
55 Time of your life?
56 Peru's capital
57 Stench
58 Expert
59 Squad
60 Nervous
61 Corral

Down

1 Tosses in
2 Albacore, e.g.
3 Repast
4 Goes ashore
5 It starts with "http"
6 — Khan
7 Ness or Lomond
8 Scattered odds and ends
9 Anger
10 Have a bug
11 Allow
17 St. Bernard's load
19 Moment
22 Arm or leg
23 Meat contaminant
25 Ninny
26 Crucial time
27 Harvard's rival
28 Ali —
29 Springlike tune
30 Commotions
31 "Zounds!"
35 Landscapes
38 Online video equipment
40 Singer Starr
42 Diving bird
45 Old woman's home?
47 Reindeer herder, probably
48 Shrek, for one
49 Night light
50 Short-order sandwich
51 Whopper
52 "I — Camera"
53 Peculiar
54 Journal

▶ Yesterday's answer

A	B	E	T		M	A	G	I		P	T	A		
M	I	N	I		A	L	U	M		O	A	R		
P	O	S	T	H	A	S	T	E		S	K	I		
			L	I	M	O		A	C	T	E	D		
G	A	P	E	S			A	N	O	N				
R	O	O	D		S	E	M	I	N	A	R	S		
I	N	S		L	I	M	I	T		T	A	O		
D	E	T	R	I	T	U	S		D	A	F	T		
		M	U	L	E			M	E	L	T	S		
S	E	A	M	Y		A	E	O	N					
P	A	R		P	O	S	T	P	O	N	E	D		
A	S	K		A	R	I	A		T	I	R	E		
Y	E	S		D	E	A	L		E	L	A	N		

Sudoku

4				8				3
	2			9			5	
5			7		6			4
2		5				1		9
		8	3		5	4		
3		7				6		5
7			9		1			8
	5			7			4	
6				2				7

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved. You solve the puzzle with reasoning and logic.

Yesterday's answer ▶

3	9	4	6	2	1	8	5	7
8	6	2	7	5	3	1	9	4
7	5	1	9	8	4	6	3	2
1	4	6	8	3	5	2	7	9
9	2	8	4	6	7	5	1	3
5	7	3	2	1	9	4	6	8
4	8	7	5	9	6	3	2	1
6	1	9	3	4	2	7	8	5
2	3	5	1	7	8	9	4	6

Send a KISS

You can now post your kiss, and read even more kisses, online at metronews.ca/kiss.

Her
It's hard for me to see you crying because he left you. But it is more painful to see myself crying because I love you yet I can't say it to you.
RON

Daniela
Danii! Your the best! thanks fro beingggg theree for me always.. Love youuuuuuuuu so much!!! BFFF!
YOUR BEST FRIEND

mamabear
To my wonderful mother, It has been a wild 20 years. I'm so grateful to have you as my mother. Thanks for being there and being awesome. We can get through anything! We just have to fight it. Problems are just setbacks; speed bumps that slow us down :) I love you!!
DAUGHTERBEAR

*BigHead, u still make my heart go pitter patter. Some things never change. **
BK KISSES* LOVE U, SPANKY

Today -4°/-7° Variable
Thursday -2°/-4° Flurries 40%
Know what the weather will be 14 days from now.
Check the 14 day trend.
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Today's horoscope

For today's crossword answers and for expanded horoscopes, go to metronews.ca

♈ Aries March 21-April 20
You need to approach what you are working on in a more balanced way. Slow down a bit.

♉ Taurus April 21-May 21
With Mars on your side, you feel like you could take on the world and win. Maybe you can. Try it.

♊ Gemini May 22-June 21
The fact that you are the only one in your social group who takes a particular viewpoint does not mean you are wrong.

♋ Cancer June 22-July 22
You may have to act tough or in some other way apply pressure to get what you want.

♌ Leo July 23-Aug.23
Life is good and getting better, so why are you still focusing on things that went wrong while ignoring things that went right?

♍ Virgo Aug. 24- Sept. 22
Mars in your sign turns retrograde in a few days, so focus energy on actually getting things done.

♎ Libra Sept. 23-Oct. 23
You may be tempted to cut corners a bit today but if you do, you may regret it next week.

♏ Scorpio Oct. 24-Nov. 22
You've never been the sort to worry what others think, and you're not about to change.

♐ Sagittarius Nov. 23-Dec. 21
Tackle a task or objective that you might not feel you're able to master at most other times.

♑ Capricorn Dec. 22-Jan. 20
This is the perfect occasion to revisit something you failed at earlier. This time, you'll succeed.

♒ Aquarius Jan. 21-Feb. 18
Seems you're having trouble keeping a desire of some sort under wraps. Why would you want to?

♓ Pisces Feb. 19-March 20
Because Mars is moving through your opposite sign at the moment, it may feel as if the whole world is against you. **SALLY BROMPTON**

Caption contest

KYODO NEWS/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

PATRICK SEMANSKY/ THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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